

In the Specification:

On page 2, line 5, ¶¶2 through page 4, line 3, please amend the following:

DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART

All firearms are equipped with some sort of sighting system to assist the shooter in aiming the weapon. There are many different sighting systems including telescopic sights, holographic sights, red dot sights, and iron sights. The term "iron sight" does not refer to the material the sight is made of but instead refers to a category of sights that consist of a rear sight located on or near the rear end of the gun closest to the shooter and a front sight located near the end of the barrel of the gun opposite the shooter. "Iron sights" may be constructed of iron, steel, aluminum, polymer or any other material of sufficient strength, rigidity and durability. The term polymer is well known to those skilled in the prior art and conveys and defines a specific class of materials when used with respect to firearms, firearm parts or accessories. The rear sight generally consists of a fixture attached to the gun that contains an aperture or a notch and the front sight generally consists of a vertical blade or post located near the end of the barrel. The shooter looks through the notch or aperture of the rear sight and centers the front sight in it. The gun is aimed by placing the front sight over the target while it is centered in the notch or aperture of the rear sight. Iron sights of both the notch and aperture variety are well known to those skilled in the prior art. Additionally, iron sights may be of the fixed or adjustable variety.

A fixed rear sight is generally constructed out of a single piece of metal plastic or polymer material. The height of the front sight must be exactly matched to the height of the rear sight in order to produce a sight picture that is the same elevation as the point

of impact of the bullet. The elevation on fixed sights is set at the factory and generally can only be adjusted by exchanging the front sight for one of a different height or by filing the front sight to lower its height. Horizontal adjustments are made on fixed sights by "drifting" the sight to the left or right in its mounting dovetail. These adjustments must often be made by a skilled gunsmith. Adjustable sights are designed to allow the shooter to adjust the sight vertically and/or horizontally to bring the point of impact of the bullet in line with the sight picture on the target. Variations in ammunition, distance to the target, barrel length and other factors cause the point of impact of the bullet to shift. Adjustable sights allow the shooter to easily compensate for these variations. Sight adjustment is achieved through a variety of means from adjustment screws, to spring loaded clips, to simply sliding or "drifting" the base of the sight horizontally in a mounting dovetail.

In general, fixed sights by virtue of their simplicity tend to be more durable and less expensive than adjustable sights, which are rather complicated to manufacture and tend to be rather fragile. For those reasons, handgun manufacturers commonly utilize fixed sights for handguns intended for defensive use. One drawback of fixed sights is that the height of the front and rear sight must be matched to the particular handgun. Manufacturers who make models of the same handgun with multiple barrel length or in multiple calibers must produce or purchase a different height sight for each model of handgun they produce. This adds expense to the manufacturing process due to the need to produce additional tooling or to purchase and stock additional parts. Additionally, because ammunition used by the particular shooter may vary in velocity or bullet weight, the sights must often be adjusted by the shooter to match the ammunition used.

On page 9, ¶2, line 4 through page 11, line 13, please amend the following as indicated:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to FIG. 1 and 4, ~~[[the]]~~ a sight 10 is comprised of a sight body 30, ~~[[a]]~~ an aperture screw 70 and a threaded insert 100. The sight body 30 is attached to a dovetail 116 cut into a firearm (not shown). The sight body 30 is formed from a material such as, but not limited to, polymer, carbon fiber, steel, aluminum, or any other material of like strength and rigidity. The sight body 30 has an upper surface 32, a lower surface 34, a first end 36, a second end 38, and a center cavity 40. Protruding above the upper surface 32 is a rim 46 that is open across the second end 38 and extends around the edge ~~[[if]]~~ of the upper surface 32 of the sight body 30 as shown in ~~[[Fig. 2]]~~ Fig. 2. A sight opening 48 is cut into the rim 46 on the first end 36 of the sight body 30 at a position that is in line with the bore of the firearm (not shown). A spring clip recess 50 is cut on opposite sides of the rim 46 located 90 degrees from the sight opening 48. The spring clip recess 50 receives a spring clip 56.

The center cavity 40 extends from the upper surface 32 through the sight body 30 to the lower surface 34 as shown in Fig. 1. Cut into the upper surface 32 forming a radius around the center cavity 40 is an aperture screw cavity 58 as seen in Fig. 2. Cut into the lower surface 34 is a male dovetail 52. Also cut into the lower surface 34 is a flange cavity 54 shown in Fig. 5. The flange cavity 54 is circular cut around the center cavity 40. The flange cavity 54 is cut to a diameter great enough that the radius of the cavity extends sight body 30 creating an opening in the male dovetail 52 at each end. Referring now to Fig. 1, ~~[[a]]~~ the threaded insert 100 is inserted into the center cavity 40 of the sight body 30 from the lower surface 34. The threaded insert 100, comprises a

cylinder 102, and a flange 104. The cylinder 102 has a threaded inner surface 106. As seen in Fig. 1 and 4, ~~[[the]]~~ two flex washers 108 are deposited over the flange 104 although it is contemplated that a single compression or flex washer 108 may be ~~utilized~~ utilized. The flange 104 and the flex washers 108 fit in the flange radius cavity 54 on the sight body 30 when the threaded insert 100 is fully inserted in the cavity 40 of the sight body 30. The flex washers 108 extend slightly beyond the male dovetail ~~[[54]]~~ 52. ~~[[An]]~~ The aperture screw 70 shown in Fig. 1 and 7-9, screws down through the threaded ~~cavity~~ inner surface 106 of the threaded insert 100 from the upper surface 32 of the sight body 30. The aperture screw 70 is comprised of a top end 72 and a bottom end 74 and a threaded shank 78. The aperture screw 70 has a head 76 formed on the ~~[[first]]~~ top end 72 of the aperture screw 70. The head 76 has a first flat surface 86, a second flat surface 88, a first radius 90, and a second radius 92. The first flat surface 86 and second flat surface 88 have scallops 91 cut into them which leaves a sight plane 89 which consists of a flat surface on the top end 72 of the aperture screw 70 that extends from the first radius 90 to the second radius 92. An aperture notch 82 is cut into the center of the sight plane 89 and spring click notches 80 are cut into the head 76 of the aperture screw 70 at opposite ends of the sight plane 89. Referring now to Fig. 4, the assembled sight 10 is mounted in the female dovetail 116 of the firearm (not shown). The flex washers 108 extend slightly beyond the male dovetail 52 and, as the sight 10 is pushed into the female dovetail 116 of the firearm (not shown), the flex washers 108 compress slightly and bias the sight 10 upwards in the female dovetail 116. This upwards biasing of the sight 10 provides sufficient friction to hold the sight 10 securely in the female dovetail 116 and ensure that it is securely mounted on the firearm (not shown). Horizontal adjustment of the sight 10 is accomplished by sliding the

sight 10 laterally in the female dovetail 116 to move the point of impact of the bullet (not shown) to the left or right of the shooter. Vertical adjustment of the sight 10 is accomplished by rotating the aperture screw 70 in the threaded insert 100. Each $\frac{1}{2}$ turn of the aperture screw 70 raises or lowers the point of impact of the bullet (not shown) by an equal distance. The spring clips 56 clicking in the spring click notches 80 on each half turn of the aperture screw 70 accomplish alignment of the aperture screw 70 at the proper position. Additionally, the aperture screw 70 may have a tritium cavity 84 into which is placed a tritium filled glass tube (not shown) to provide illumination of the sight 70 for use at night or in low light conditions. The use ~~[[to]]~~ of tritium to illuminate weapon sights in low light or darkness is well known to those skilled in the prior art.

On page 11, ¶ 2, line 14 through page 12, line 2, please amend the following:

An alternative embodiment of the present invention shown in FIG. 10-12 is a flex plate 110 which may be utilized in place of the flex washers 108 as described above. The flex plate 110 is generally comprised of a stamped piece of steel or other suitable material. It has an opening 112 which fits over the cylinder 102 of the threaded insert 100 and a dovetail shoulder 114 which is dimensioned to be slightly larger than the dovetail ~~[[110]]~~ 116. When the sight 10 is inserted into the female dovetail 116, the dovetail shoulder 114 presses against the sides of the female dovetail 116 and forces the flex plate 110 to flex upwards and bias the sight 10 in the female dovetail 116 and securely attach the sight 10 to the firearm (not shown). (Shown in ~~exhibit~~ Fig. 11 is a drawing of the flex plate 110 and the threaded insert 100 shown in relation to the female dovetail 116.)

On page 12, first full paragraph ¶1, line 3 through ¶4, continued on page 13, line 5, please amend the following as indicated:

Another alternative embodiment of the present invention (not shown) is ~~[[a]] the~~ sight body 30 that is machined out of steel, aluminum, or any other suitable metal. In this embodiment the threaded insert 100, flex washers 108, and/or flex plate ~~[[116]]~~ 110 could be eliminated and the cavity 40 could be threaded to receive the aperture screw 70. Attachment of the sight 10 to the firearm (not shown) would be accomplished via a traditional dovetail (which is well known to those skilled in the prior art) cut into the lower surface 34 of the sight body 30 of the sight 10 as illustrated in Fig. 4.

Yet another alternative embodiment of the present invention (not shown) is ~~[[a]] the~~ threaded insert 100 which has a flange 104 which is dimensioned so that it would press against the dovetail 116 and thus eliminate the need for the use of flex washers 108 or ~~[[a]] the~~ flex plate ~~[[116]]~~ 110 to secure the sight 10 to the firearm (not shown).

Still another alternative embodiment of the present invention (not shown) is ~~[[a]] the~~ sight 10 which ~~employ's an~~ employs the aperture screw 70 which has a peep sight or ghost ring sight (both which are well known to those who are skilled in the prior art) instead of the aperture notch 82 which was disclosed above.

Yet another embodiment of the present invention shown in Figs. 13-19, the sight 10 utilizes a plunger ~~[[57a]]~~ 56a and a spring ~~[[56a]]~~ 57a in lieu of the spring clip 56 to provide for click stops for the vertical adjustments of ~~[[the]]~~ an aperture screw 70a. The plunger ~~[[57a]]~~ 56a and spring ~~[[56a]]~~ 57a are inserted into a plunger cavity 55a which is drilled or cut into the lateral side of a center cavity 40a of ~~[[the]]~~ a sight body 30a. The plunger cavity 40a extends from ~~[[the]]~~ a lower surface 34a of the sight body 30a to ~~[[the]]~~ an upper surface 32a of the sight body 30a as shown in Fig. 13. The aperture

screw 70a has a plunger notch 80a cut into the base of the aperture screw 70a at opposite ends of ~~[[the]]~~ a sight plane 89a. As the aperture screw 70a is turned the plunger ~~[[57a]]~~ 56a is biased upwards against the aperture screw 70a and clicks into the plunger notches 80a providing click stops for the vertical adjustments of the aperture screw 70a.